



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
MAYOR JERRY SANDERS

San Diego Public Library

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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RISA LEVITT KOHN AND REBECCA MOORE DISCUSS *A PORTABLE GOD* AT THE SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Book Considers Judaism and Christianity Sisters Born of the Same Parent

SAN DIEGO – The San Diego Public Library will host an Author Talk featuring Risa Levitt Kohn and Rebecca Moore, co-authors of *A Portable God: The Origin of Judaism and Christianity*. The book argues that Judaism did not pre-date Christianity, but rather that the two religions arose at the same time out of the same theological and historical environment. The FREE event will take place at 2 p.m. on Sunday, June 1 in the auditorium of the Central Library, located at 820 E Street in downtown San Diego.

Emphasizing the importance, strength and longevity of Israelite religion and its practices, *A Portable God* tells the compelling story of how the first believers of these two important religions reacted to the dramatic changes of their time: Roman troops in their midst, destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem and an evolving understanding of God, resulting in the traditions that have become today's Judaism and Christianity.

Risa Levitt Kohn, Ph.D. is a professor of Hebrew Bible and Judaism at San Diego State University. She has lectured extensively on the Hebrew Bible, Jewish and Christian origins and Judaism. Levitt Kohn was the curator of the 2007 Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibition at the San Diego Natural History Museum, which was the largest and most comprehensive scroll exhibition in North America.

Rebecca Moore, Ph.D. is an associate professor and Chair of the Department of Religious Studies at San Diego State University. She teaches Christianity and New Testament and her research is on Jewish and Christian dialogue, particularly on issues of biblical commentary.

Copies of the book will be available for purchase at the event.

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Press Release – A Portable God

Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library's catalog online at www.sandiegolibrary.org.

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